

## REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, claims 1-44 were pending. Claims 1-44 were rejected. Portions of the specification were objected to. In this response, claims 7 and 31 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 6, 15, 22-23, 29-30, and 42 have been amended. Thus, claims 1-6, 8-30, and 32-44 remain pending. Portions of the specification have been amended to overcome the objections. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the present application as amended is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-11, 15-16, 23-24, 30-35, and 39-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,212,640 of Abdelnur et al. ("Abdelnur"). Since Abdelnur was issued after the filing date of the present application, Applicant assumes that the rejection should be under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). Applicant hereby reserves the right to swear behind Abdelnur in the subsequent prosecution of the present application.

In view of the foregoing amendments, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-44 include limitations are not disclosed or suggested by Abdelnur. As a result, claims 1-44 are not anticipated by Abdelnur. Specifically, independent claim 1 recites:

1. A system comprising:
  - a plurality of web servers running the distributed authoring and versioning (WebDAV) enabled hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) coupled to the internet; and
  - a plurality of personal computers coupled to the internet, each personal computer comprising an operating system extension that forwards file system requests involving file systems stored on one of the plurality of web servers to a network access application program on the personal computer that sends the file system requests as at least one WebDAV or HTTP request to an appropriate web server,

wherein the file system requests are received by a file system of the operating system communicatively coupled to the operating system extension as ordinary file system requests from an application that is not aware of WebDAV or HTTP protocol.

(Emphasis added)

Independent claim 1 includes a plurality of client computers and each of the computers includes an operating system extension (e.g., as part of an operating system, such as, a file system) that converts an ordinary file system request to an HTTP/WebDAV request and transmits the HTTP/WebDAV request to a remote server to access one or more files store therein. The file system request is received from an application that is not aware of the HTTP/WebDAV protocol. The application accesses the remote file just as if it is accessing a local file system. As a result, the invention as claimed may be applied to any applications, even if those unaware of the HTTP/WebDAV protocol (e.g., the applications that are unable to communicate using the HTTP/WebDAV protocol). Applicant respectfully submits that the above limitations are absent from Abdelnur.

Rather, Abdelnur discloses a method and apparatus for sharing resources in a network environment using an HTTP-NFS tunneling protocol. A user of Abdelnur has to rely on an application that is aware of HTTP protocol, such as, for example, an Internet browser. See, for example, Abstract, Fig. 4, col. 10, lines 24 to 53 of Abdelnur. Applicant respectfully submits that Abdelnur fails to disclose or suggest an operating system extension (as a part of operating system kernel) that intercepts an ordinary file system request and converts the file system request into an HTTP/WebDAV request to allow an application unaware of the HTTP/WebDAV protocol to access one or more files stored in a server over the Internet, as if it is accessing a local file system. Therefore, for the reasons discussed above, independent claim 1 is not anticipated by Abdelnur.

Similarly, independent claims 6, 15, 23, 30, 39, and 42 include limitations similar to those found in claim 1. Thus, for the reasons similar to those discussed above, claims 6, 15, 23, 30, 39, and 42 are not anticipated by Abdelnur.

Given that claims 2-5, 8-14, 16-22, 24-29, 32-38, 40-41, and 43-44 depend from one of the above independent claims, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-5, 8-14, 16-22, 24-29,

32-38, 40-41, and 43-44 are also not anticipated by Abdelnur. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully submitted.

Claims 12-14, 17-22, 25-29, and 36-38 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abdelnur in view of U.S. Patent No. 6119,151 of Cantrell et al. ("Cantrell"). Cantrell relates to a cache management system in a distributed file system. Applicant respectfully submits that Cantrell also fails to disclose or suggest the limitations discussed above, as applied to the independent claims. Therefore, at least for the reasons similar to those discussed above, claims 12-14, 17-22, 25-29, and 36-38 are patentable over Abdelnur in view of Cantrell. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully submitted.

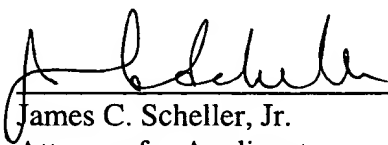
In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits the present application is now in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite or assist in the allowance of the present application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (408) 720-8300.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any shortage of fees in connection with this response.

Respectfully submitted,

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